In addition, it has also been decided to set up a National Skill Development Mission under which 1500 new ITIs and 50,000 Skill Development Centres are planned in Public Private Partnership mode.

Requirement of aircrafts for the Navy t*192. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the

Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the number of reconnaissance and 'Sea-Harrier' aircrafts has decreased continuously;

if so, the number of aircrafts, engaged in the work of reconnaissance, destroyed so far including 'Sea-Harrier' aircrafts;

whether requirement of reconnaissance and 'Sea-Harrier' aircrafts has become more relevant for Navy in the present context; and

if so, the steps Government is taking to meet the requirement of reconnaissance and 'Sea-Harrier' aircrafts for the Navy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Government constantly review the security environment and accordingly decide to induct appropriate equipment including aircraft for Navy for adequate defence preparedness. Reconnaissance aircraft are required for maritime surveillance. Sea Harrier aircraft are used for air defence of the fleet. The need for reconnaissance aircraft has increased in the present context. The number of reconnaissance and Sea Harrier aircraft in the Navy has decreased over the past years. However, this shortfall is being met by induction of additional Dornier aircraft, procurement of MiG-29K and Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft. Limited upgrade of Sea Harrier aircraft undertaken through M/s. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is expected to be completed by 2009.

Declaration of 2007 as year of water

t*193. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that even after year 2007 being declared as year for water, there are several villages which are deprived of drinking water;

if so, the details of such villages, State-wise; and

the efforts Government is making to provide water in these villages?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Water is a State subject and State Governments are responsible to provide drinking water to the rural areas. To supplement the efforts of the State, financial assistance is provided to the States through Centra!', ■ sponsored, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The State Governments are competent to plan, sanction and implement rurai water supply schemes from the funds provided under ARWSP. Under ARWSP, unit of coverage for providing drinking water supply is habitation and not village. Status of potable water availability in **a** village or habitation is dynamic in nature and is dependent on many factors *viz.* quantum **of** rainfall, operation and maintenance of existing systems, changes

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in ground water table, use by other sectors, etc. The status of coverage of habitations as reported by the respective States with the provision of potable drinking water as on 1.4.2007, is given in the enclosed Statement *{See* below).

(c) Government is committed to enable the rural population to have access to safe drinking water in adequate quantity throughout the year. Accordingly, Bharat Nirman Programme with drinking water supply as one of the six components has been launched in 2005 to be completed by March, 2009 for building rural infrastructure. So far, under rural drinking water component, 30,901 uncovered habitations and 2.10 lakh slipped-back habitations have been covered. In addition, 86,772 quality-affected habitations have also been addressed as per information received from the States.

Prior to Bharat Nirman, in 2004-05, Rs. 2,930.79 crore were provided for rural drinking water supply. However, with the start of Bharat Nirman, assistance to States for rural drinking water under ARWSP has been enhanced substantially. In 2005-06, Rs. 4,093.11 crore and Rs. 4,552.40 crore in 2006-07 has been provided to States. In 2007-08, against an allocation of Rs. 6,500 crore, Rs. 5,377.45 crore has been provided to States up to February, 2008 as Central assistance under ARWSP. In 2008-09, allocation for ARWSP has been further enhanced to Rs. 7,300 crore. Against Rs. 16,254.42 crore provided under ARWSP in the Tenth Plan, keeping in view the priority accorded to rural drinking water in the Eleventh Plan, the allocation as Central assistance has been increased to Rs. 39,490 crore.

The Government gives maximum importance to cover habitations which are water deficient at present. Focused funding under the ARWSP for tackling water quality problem in the affected habitations, component under ARWSP for ensuring sustainability to drinking water sources, provision of funding for drinking water supply in desert areas, convergence with other programmes for water conservation and linking with sanitation for ensuring potable water supply to the water deficient habitations/ villages are some of the salient points for reaching potable water to water deficient; habitations/villages during the balance period under the Bharat Nirman Programme and the Eleventh Plan.

Statement

Status of coverage of habitations with provision of potable drinking water as reported by the States based on Habitation Survey—2003 *as on* 1.4.2007

Si.No.	State/UT	Number of habitations			
		Not Covered	Partially Covered	Fully Covered	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,935	23,613	35,948	61,496
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,809	1,607	1,799	5,215
3.	Assam	26,707	14,566	34,461	75,734
4.	Bihar	18,452	36,813	49,940	1,05,205
5.	Chhattisgarh	3,643	1,848	65,329	70,820
6.	Goa	0	0	331	331

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Gujarat	1,263	6,286	27,035	34,584
8.	Haryana	50	1,806	4,672	6,528
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4,613	5,942	17,660	28,215
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,887	3,564	6,942	12,393
11.	Jharkhand	12,746	1,923	1,05,341	1,20,010
12.	Kamataka	22	9,704	32,457	42,183
13.	Kerala	291	4,916	6.958	12,165
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6,411	11,326	1,09.299	1,27,036
15.	Maharashtra	1,826	30,171	45,469	77,466
16.	Manipur	NA	NA	NA	NA
17.	Meghalaya	1,389	1,826	6,111	9,326
18.	Mizoram	140	57	569	766
19.	Nagaland	0	856	521	1,377
20.	Orissa	11,759	12,049	1,09,889	1,33.697
21.	Punjab	3,151	3,662	6,890	13,703
22.	Rajasthan	53,748	0	54,020	1,07,768
23.	Sikkim	0	675	1,823	2,498
24.	Tamil Nadu	6,519	25,250	50,018	81,787
25.	Tripura	800	2,212	4,928	7,940
26.	Uttar Pradesh	974	1,722	2,57,385	2,60.081
27.	Uttarakhand	382	5,077	12,852	18.311
28.	West Bengal	4,851	13,137	72,360	90,348
29.	A & N Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA
30.	D & N Haveli	0	0	70	70
31.	Daman & Diu	0	0	21	21
32.	Delhi	NA	NA	NA	NA
33.	Lakshadweep	0	7	2	9
34.	Puducherry	0	0	248	248
35.	Chandigarh	0	0	IS	18
	Total	1,65,368	2,20,615	11,21,366	15,07349

NA: Not available